



IRA·PIERCE

ROGERS

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INCLUDING MATERIAL ON THE MELLARD FAMILY

BY

JERRY H ROBBINS

ATLANTA, GEORGIA ▶ SUMMER, 1988



IRA PIERCE ROGERS

(1857-1958)

(including material on the Mellard family)

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Jerry H. Robbins

90 FORREST PLACE
Atlanta, Georgia 30318

Summer, 1988

INTRODUCTION

This collection of biographical material about IRA PIERCE ROGERS, his wives, Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers and Florence Hudson Rogers, and their families--especially the Mellard family--is the first in a series of similar items that I hope to prepare from a large mass of accumulated, but ill-organized, material about various members of the Rogers family and the families into which they married. Drafts of some of this material have been distributed to other members of the family and their comments and--especially--additional information and material have been much appreciated.

This work is dedicated to three people.

First, it is dedicated to the memory of my great-grandfather, IRA PIERCE ROGERS, probably the finest Christian man I have ever known. His life enriched several generations of members of the family, neighbors, friends, and church and community people. As a young child, my visits to the farm, which had none of the conveniences, gave me an insight into life as it was in the Nineteenth Century that people younger than I seldom have. As a junior high schooler, I spent many hours with him in the swing on the front porch of the A.J. Rogers home as he would tell about the "old times." One of his amazing memory feats was to recite, in order, with dates of service, the ministers of the DeQueen Methodist Church. At the time, I was more interested in the community history of DeQueen than I was in the family history and "Papaw" could talk for hours without repeating himself about the early days of the town. I did, however, make some school-boy notes on members of the family from these conversations and these are cited in the body of this work. He told me so much more, but it didn't get written down and it has long since been forgotten, especially as it was about people whose names were not familiar to me at the time.

His homespun humor ("have you heard about the new kind of money where it takes three pieces to make a dollar?--it's called two quarters and a half dollar;" "to take a bath from a wash basin, you wash down as far as possible, then up as far as possible--then you wash possible"); his support of the church, including Sunday afternoon questions to me as to what the sermon was about and a gift to me of a concordance (which he signed), and his faithful listening to radio sermons after he was too old to attend regularly; and his positive outlook on life despite many adversities, much hard work at common labor, and the loss of much of his hearing and sight--all these and many more things are treasured memories.

Second, this is dedicated to my mother, Barbara Rogers Robbins who is, of course, my Rogers connection. Her love for "Papaw" Rogers far exceeded mine because she had the chance to know him for so much longer. This work started as a sixteen-page gift as a Mother's Day present--and look where it's gotten to so

far, with much more (about other ancestors and relatives) still to come!

Third, this is dedicated to cousin Ann Mellard who has generously and unselfishly shared with me her life-long collection of information on the Mellard family. As can be seen from the "Notes," most of the material in Part II comes from information that cousin Ann has provided to me, often at considerable trouble and expense of copying and mailing. I am deeply indebted to her for her research and her contributions to this.

Although this has been an off-and-on labor of love for some years, I appreciate the assistance of Alex Harris in typing the body of the next-to-last draft.

--Jerry Robbins

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IRA PIERCE ROGERS

(July 3, 1857-March 30, 1958)

PART I. EARLY LIFE (1857-1878)

Birth Date and Place

IRA PIERCE ROGERS was born on July 3, 1857,¹ in Butler County, Alabama, probably in the southern part of the county. The year before, 1856, the family was living in Precinct Two of Butler County, as there is a record in Hahn's county history that Francis Rogers, the father of IRA PIERCE ROGERS, paid real estate taxes in that precinct in that year.² It is not known where Precinct Two was in 1856; however, it was at South Butler in 1885, according to Little's county history.^{3,4}

The 1860 Census of Butler County, Alabama, shows what is undoubtedly the Francis Rogers family with a Dawson Post Office address. It is possible that the family had moved to this area by the time that IRA PIERCE ROGERS was born in 1857, or it may be that the Dawson Post Office was in the South Butler community. Neither Little nor Hahn, in their respective county histories, makes reference to a Dawson Post Office. However, there was a Dawson Masonic Lodge at this time⁵ and perhaps there was a post office in or near the Lodge building.

The Dawson Masonic Lodge was in the Oakey Streak community and the Lodge building housed the Oakey Streak Normal School.⁶ The Oakey Streak community may be significant in the history of the Francis Rogers family for these reasons:

First, the 1860 Census information appears to put the family in this general section of Butler County. Second, IRA PIERCE ROGERS said that his family moved to Arkansas from near the town of Georgianna, Alabama.⁷ Georgianna was the closest place of any size at the time. Third, because of the family's close association with Methodism, they may have lived close to a Methodist church. The Oakey Streak Methodist Church, still standing and on the National Register of Historic Places, was "organized before December 7, 1850,"⁸ making it one of the oldest Methodist churches in the area. Fourth, the cemetery at the Oakey Streak Methodist Church contains several Rogers graves, although it is not known if or how these persons are related. These persons are members of the Robert D. Rogers (1807-1890) family.⁹

Parents

IRA PIERCE ROGERS was the seventh child and fifth son of Francis Rogers (April 7, 1813-August 29, 1882) and his wife Nancy Beasley Rogers (June 3, 1814-October 30, 1900).¹⁰ Francis Rogers was a farmer who was born in South Carolina and who had lived elsewhere in south Alabama and possibly in Pensacola, Florida, before moving to Butler County, Alabama.¹¹

Youth

At the time that IRA PIERCE ROGERS was born, his oldest brother, William Henry Rogers, was 18 years old, having been born on January 23, 1839. His oldest sister, Ann Elizabeth "Lizzie" Rogers, was almost 16 years old, having been born on December 25, 1841. Another older brother, James Thompson Rogers, was 13 years

old, having been born on May 26, 1844. Another older brother, Richard Francis Rogers, had been born on March 12, 1847, and was then 10 years old. The other sister, Eliza Sophia Rogers, was seven years old, having been born on December 27, 1849. The youngest member of the family at the time of the birth of IRA PIERCE ROGERS was his brother Stephen Wesley Rogers, age four, who had been born on November 11, 1852.¹²

On October 30, 1859, when IRA PIERCE ROGERS was two years old, another brother, Louis Alexander Rogers, was born.¹³ Apparently Louis Alexander Rogers died within a short period of time, though, as he does not appear in any later records, including the 1860 Census of Butler County, Alabama.

Around this time, perhaps in early 1860, the oldest sister, Ann Elizabeth "Lizzie" Rogers, married Thomas B. Warren.¹⁴

In 1860, Butler County produced some cotton, but it was not a major cotton-producing county at that time. Perhaps as a consequence, Butler County was among the lowest group of counties in Alabama in personal wealth at that time. The population was small, compared with many Alabama counties, and almost entirely rural. The number of blacks was small compared with many other Alabama counties at the time. There was virtually no industry, but the county was on the new rail line from Montgomery through Greenville and Pollard to Hurricane, which was across the Bay from Mobile. In 1860 less than half of the families in the county owned slaves; however, the majority of whites were secessionists.¹⁵

Perhaps because of the economic conditions, or perhaps because war loomed on the horizon, or both, the Francis Rogers family decided to move to Arkansas. The move was made in early 1861, and the family arrived in Arkansas on February 9, 1861, according to IRA PIERCE ROGERS.¹⁶ The exact route of their travel is not known. According to Nettie Rogers Williams, the family "came to Arkansas in wagons drawn by oxen and crossed [the] Mississippi [River] at Grand Landing which is near Eudora, Arkansas and a short way to Snyder."¹⁷ However, according to notes used in a presentation made by Barbara Rogers Robbins as part of the 100th birthday celebration for IRA PIERCE ROGERS, "He came with his family to New Orleans and up the Mississippi River and up the Ouachita River to a landing near Hamburg in Ashley County."¹⁸ Whatever the travel route, the family settled in Ashley County, Arkansas, near the small town of Snyder.

About a year after the arrival of the family in Ashley County, Arkansas, the oldest brother, William Henry Rogers, married Amanda J. Grantham (August 10, 1845-September 21, 1899). This event occurred on February 5, 1862,¹⁹ when IRA PIERCE ROGERS was four years old. This marriage was the first of three marriages between members of the Rogers and Grantham families.²⁰

Later that same month, though, on February 28, 1862, the second oldest brother, James Thompson Rogers, died at the age of 18. He was the first person buried in what is now known as the Rogers Cemetery in Ashley County, Arkansas.^{21, 22}

The effects of the Civil War were felt even in rural Ashley County, Arkansas. According to Goodspeed,

The men of this county were among the first to respond to the call for troops upon the secession of Arkansas from the Union, furnishing, all told ten companies of men, numbering about 100 men to each company.... No battles were fought on this soil, and the Federals came in but once or twice.²³

Older brother William Henry Rogers was one of those who responded to the call, and apparently he was the only person in the immediate Rogers family to be directly involved in the War. On April 25, 1862, only a little more than two months after he was married, the 23-year-old William Henry Rogers enlisted. He served until May, 1865.²⁴

According to IRA PIERCE ROGERS, his formal education was limited to attending school with 25 or 30 other students in the home of a Ms. Mellard, into whose family he later married.²⁵ According to Ann Mellard, this was probably a school kept by Sarah Frances "Sallie" Mellard (1847-1908), an aunt of Henrietta Alice Mellard. "Sallie" Mellard lived in the home of Seaborn Mellard, her brother, in the late 1860's and early 1870's.²⁶

Growing Up in Ashley County

Little is known about the years during and after the Civil War when IRA PIERCE ROGERS was growing up on a farm near Snyder in Ashley County. The area has been described as follows:

The "like with unlike conditions" of the country is brought out notably in its climate; the perfection of the peach, plum, apricot, nectarine, grape, cotton, sugar-cane and sweet potato being second, along with that of the pear, strawberry, raspberry, corn, oats, sorghum, rye, and Irish potato.

It is discovered in its temperature, which in winter has never been known to fall to zero, and which in summer is modified during the day and night time by gulf breezes.

It is observed in its flora....

It is seen in its successful adaptation to the raising of live stock; in its maximum production of cotton and corn, and in its remarkable complement of merchantable soft and hardwood timber, the like of which can not be found elsewhere in the State.

It is established in an investigation of its domestic water supply; in an exemption of the ill's of malaria, if a residence in the bottom is avoided, and in the health of the women and children seen here, who wear the colors of the rose and lily in their cheeks as they would throughout the mountains of the State.

.... Of the systems, as characterized physically, the alluvial territory is the most remarkable, being, in addition to its great extent, at all times superior to overflow. It is the area alluded to in another place as the valley plane of Bayou Bartholomew.... Its relation to the agriculture of the county, present and prospective, is seen in its character, being a section the yield of which on an average is only a fraction less than a bale of cotton to the acre, and the corn yield forty bushels to the acre notwithstanding its indifferent cultivation. It is also a region of very remarkably sized hardwood, and cypress timber, which alone would pay for twice the present value of the land....

.... Formerly no section of country in all the State afforded a finer field for sport nor offered a greater variety to the huntsman and fisherman. Bear, panther, deer, wildcat, beaver, otter, coon, opossum, wolf, fox, squirrel, rabbit, mink and skunk abounded, while turkey and quail were not unknown objects in their season; wild geese, brant, ducks, woodcock, snipe and plover were numerous, and even now only the larger game is scarce. Wild turkeys are plentiful, and this is the only place where the hunter grows weary of shooting quail, rather than hunting for them. In the larger streams are found the alligator gar, weighing from 100 to 150 pounds, blue cat weighing 100 pounds, and the mud cat, frequently attaining a like size. The mud fish or grindel is a one to eight pound fish. Black and striped bass range from one to five pounds in weight. White perch seldom exceed from one half pound to one pound in weight. Goggle eye, red perch, pickerel and the buffalo are also plentiful here.²⁷

Opportunities for religious observances were probably adequate during this period of time. The Methodist Church was in this area before the Rogers family came. According to Goodspeed,

The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was organized into a circuit about the year 1847.... The circuit embraced the whole county until 1867 or 1868, when it was divided, the west half being called Hamburg Circuit, and the east half the Bartholomew Circuit.²⁸

.... Keener Springs, about twelve miles east of Hamburg, are notable as the Methodist campground. At this place has been erected a large pavilion, and here are held annual camp meeting services....²⁹

On January 13, 1877, when IRA PIERCE ROGERS was 19, his next older brother, Stephen Wesley Rogers, married Sarah Cathon (Catherine) "Sallie" Wilkerson (September 12, 1854-December 2, 1901) and this couple continued to live in Ashley County.^{30,31}

At the age of 21, IRA PIERCE ROGERS married Henrietta Alice Mellard (February 6, 1858-April 10, 1897). Two days before the marriage, on December 6, 1878, he was issued a Bond for Marriage License in Ashley County, which reads, in part:

Know all Men by these Presents, that we, I.P. ROGERS as principal, and Berry Johnson as security, are held and firmly bound unto the State of Arkansas, for the use and benefit of the Common School Fund of Ashley County, in the penal sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS.... Signed this 6th day of December 1878.

THE CONDITION OF THE ABOVE OBLIGATION IS SUCH THAT, whereas, the above bounden I.P. ROGERS has this day applied to the Clerk of the County Court of Ashley County, for a License authorizing the solemnization of the Rite of Matrimony between the said I.P. ROGERS and H.A. Mellard. Now if the said parties...shall faithfully carry into effect...then this obligation shall be void....

Witness our signatures, the day above written.

I.P. ROGERS
L.W. Johnson³²

The marriage ceremony was held on December 8, 1878, in the home of Seaborn James Mellard, the bride's father. Rev. Isaac Newton was the minister. The witnesses were B.F. Grantham and M.E. Tyers.³³ Henrietta Alice Mellard was the eldest daughter of Seaborn James Mellard (June 8, 1834-April 26, 1882) and his wife Martha Deborah Howie Mellard (May 19, 1836-June 12, 1875).

PART II. THE MELLARD FAMILY

Henrietta Alice Mellard

Henrietta Alice Mellard was born on February 6, 1858, in Sumter County, Alabama. She was the second child of Seaborn James Mellard (June 8, 1834-April 26, 1882) and his wife Martha Deborah Howie Mellard (May 19, 1836-June 12, 1875).³⁴ At the time of her birth, her older brother, William Elisha Mellard, was almost two years old, having been born on March 6, 1856.

Henrietta Alice Mellard moved with her family from Alabama to Ashley County, Arkansas, sometime between 1860 and 1866, according to the locations of the births of her siblings. She grew up in the family's Methodist tradition and she was baptized at the Kenner (Springs) Camp Ground,³⁵ a Methodist campground which was in Ashley County, Arkansas. She is said to have had a common school education,³⁶ probably in the same school room as her future husband and under the tutelage of her aunt "Sallie" Mellard.

After her marriage to IRA PIERCE ROGERS on December 8, 1878, at the age of 20 in the home of her parents, she lived with her husband and family in Ashley County, Arkansas; Chapel Hill and Ultima Thule, Sevier County, Arkansas; Henrietta, Clay County, Texas; and Hatton, Polk County, Arkansas. Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers died in Hatton, Arkansas, on April 10, 1897, at the age of 39. She was survived by her husband and four children. She was buried in the Chapel Hill Cemetery in Sevier

County, Arkansas.

Siblings of Henrietta Alice Mellard and Their Families

Henrietta Alice Mellard had an older brother and six younger brothers and sisters. The siblings were:

1. William Elisha Mellard (March 6, 1856³⁷-August 11, 1918). William Elisha Mellard was born in Alabama.³⁸ He was a Methodist, had a common school education, and was a farmer by occupation in his adult years.³⁹ In 1880, he was living with his father and brothers and sisters in dwelling #12 in Beech Creek Township in Ashley County, Arkansas, according to the Census. In 1882 he married Laura Louiza Peacock (January 9, 1862-November 8, 1894? 1904?), the daughter of neighbors John Lewis (1822?-?after 1880) and Lydia Louiza Gardner Peacock (1829-1881). The five children of William Elisha and Laura Louiza Mellard are given below.

Laura Peacock Mellard was not listed with the remainder of her family in the 1900 Census of Union County, Arkansas, when her family lived adjacent to the family of the brother of her husband.⁴⁰ This supports that she died in 1894, not 1904. Ann Mellard stated that "Uncle Will moved near Dad so that Mother could help with Aunt Laura's baby girl Pearl."⁴¹ The burial places of William and Laura Mellard are not known. Their children, nieces and nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, were:

A. Jewel Mellard (18??-?). Jewel Mellard may have died young. She never married.

B. Emma Lou Mellard (April 5,⁴² 1886-?). Emma Lou Mellard married Jack Shaw (?-?). Their children, great nieces of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, were:

i. Lexa A. Shaw (May 16, 1905-). Lexa Shaw married a Mr. Cole. They had a daughter who was a great-great-niece of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

a. Barbara Jean Cole (October 22, 1932-).
Barbara Jean Cole married Benny Ballard (?-).

ii. Laura Hazel Shaw (October 27, 1909-). Laura Shaw married Harry Eustace Harper (?-) on July 1, 1938. Their children, a great-great nephew and great-great nieces of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, were:

a. Nancy Harper (?-). Nancy Harper married Thomas Fleming (?-). They had a son who is a great-great-great nephew of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

(1) Keith Thomas Fleming (1963-).

b. Harry Lee Harper (August 26, 1944-).

c. Jacky Jean Harper (?-).

C. Walter Elisha Mellard (January, 1888-April 8, 1969). Walter Elisha Mellard married Altha Dee Walker (?-?)

on October 7, 1910. He died in Houston, Texas. The children of Walter Elisha and Altha Dee Mellard were great-nieces and great-nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers and were:

i. Earl Ray Mellard (October 29, 1911-November 25, 1912).

ii. Veta Corrine Mellard (December 21, 1913-February 8, 1924).

iii. Audrey Ezell Mellard (December 7, 1920-).

iv. Hellon Ouida Mellard (February 23, 1925-).

v. Margie May Mellard (October 24, 1928-) and

vi. Myra Fay Mellard (October 24, 1928-) (twins).

vii. Billy Neal Mellard (March 28, 1932-).

D. Augustus "Gus" Mellard (January, 1889-after 1900). "Gus" Mellard never married. He died in Fordyce, Arkansas.

E. Pearl Mellard (1891-1968?). Pearl Mellard married Sam Cathey (?-?). They had two children, a great-niece and a great-nephew of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers. Pearl Mellard Cathey was buried in Camden, Arkansas.

i. Clark Bushner Cathey (?-). Clark Bushner Cathey married a woman named Anna (last name not known) (?-February 17, 1969). Anna died in Baltimore, Maryland. Clark Bushner Cathey had a step-son named John (?-).

ii. Ruby Lee Cathey (?-). Ruby Lee Cathey married Morgan M. Ainsworth (?-) and they lived in Monroe (Louisiana?). They had a son, whose name is not known. They also had a daughter, a great-great niece of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

a. Son (?-).

b. Linda Cathey Ainsworth (?-). Linda Cathey Ainsworth married a Mr. Adams (?-). Their son is a great-great-great nephew of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

(1) David Adams (February 27, 1969-).⁴³

2. (Henrietta Alice Mellard, the subject of the previous section).

3. Henry Augustus Mellard (January 5, 1860-March 8, 1895). Henry Augustus Mellard was born in Alabama.⁴⁴ He was a Methodist, had a common school education, and was a farmer by occupation in his adult years. He married Edna Haynes (?-?) on January 5, 1885.⁴⁵ He later married Cordelia "Cordee" Bagwell (?-?).⁴⁶ His last residence was at Cargile, Arkansas (near El Dorado). He died of pneumonia⁴⁷ on March 8, 1895, and was buried in the El Dorado city cemetery.⁴⁸ The children of Henry Augustus Mellard, who were nieces and nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, were:

A. Claude Augustus Mellard (June 4, 1891-March 8, 1974). Claude Augustus Mellard was born at Cargile, Arkansas. On April 13, 1912, he married Carrie Pearl Crawford (April 2, 1893-August 8, 1959). She was born in Brazil, Arkansas and died in Corpus Christi, Texas. She was buried in the Memory Gardens Cemetery.

Claude Augustus Mellard was a carpenter by occupation and a member of the Salvation Army. He had a second wife named Fanny (?-). He died on March 8, 1974, and was buried in Texas.

The children of Claude Augustus and Carrie Mellard, who are great-nieces and great-nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, are:

i. Robie Carl Mellard (August 22, 1913-). Robie Carl Mellard was born in Paron, Arkansas, and he was never married.

ii. Wesley Orval Mellard (November 23, 1915-). Wesley Orval Mellard was born at Paron, Arkansas, and he married Clarice Green (?-) on June 8, 1942, in Corpus Christi, Texas. Their children, great-great nieces and nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, are:

a. Nona Kay Mellard (?-).

b. Michael Lee Mellard (?-).

c. Corin (?) Mellard (?-).

iii. Edgar Paul Mellard (August 3, 1917-). Edgar Paul Mellard was born at Belfast, Arkansas, and he married Grace Nelson (?-) on May 5, 1940, in Senten, Texas. Their children, great-great nieces and nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, are:

- a. Richard Mellard (adopted) (?-).
- b. Raymond Mellard (?-).
- c. Robert Mellard (?-).

iv. Armol Verchel "Virgil" Mellard (February 24, 1919-). "Virgil" Mellard was born at Belfast, Arkansas, and he married Mary Critzler (?-?) on May 31, 1938, in Gladewater, Texas. His second marriage was to Marerete Mary Hill (?-). His children, great-great nieces and nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, are:

- a. Virgil Mellard, Jr. (?-).
- b. Martin Mellard (?-).
- c. Kathryn Mellard (?-).

v. Orel Prather Mellard (March 12, 1921-). Orel Prather Mellard was born in Fordyce, Arkansas, and he married Dorothy Hoar (?-) on October 18, 1947, in Atoona, Pennsylvania. Their children, great-great nieces and nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, are:

- a. Michal Mellard (?-).
- b. Sharon Mellard (?-).
- c. Mark Mellard (?-).

vi. Jewel Norman Mellard (April 5, 1925-). Jewel Norman Mellard was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and he married Lorann Garette (?-) on September 11, 1943, in Corpus Christi, Texas. Their children, great-great nieces and nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, are:

- a. Norman Mellard, Jr. (?-).
- b. Jimmy Mellard (?-).
- c. Kirk Mellard (?-).

vii. Noel Lee Mellard (July 29, 1927-). Noel Lee Mellard was born in Seminole, Oklahoma, and he married Ellen Smith (?-) on December 23, 1943. Their daughter, a great-great niece of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, is:

- a. Barbara Mellard (?-).

viii. Claudie J. Ellen Mellard (March 31, 1935-). Claudie J. Ellen Mellard was born in Greggton, Texas, and she married Robert G. Griggs (?-) on February 15, 1952, in Corpus Christi, Texas. Their children, great-great nieces of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, are:

a. Lisa Griggs (?-).

b. Erin Shawn Griggs (?-).

B. Ernest Edward Mellard (189?-?). Ernest Edward Mellard had a son who was a great-great nephew of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

i. Murl C. Mellard (?-). The son of Murl C. Mellard is a great-great-great nephew of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

a. Melton Edward Mellard (?-). Melton Edward Mellard was in the U.S. Army, stationed in Huntsville, Alabama, c1978-1979. He lives at 3822 Parker Road, Houston, Texas 77016.

C. Edgar Edward Mellard (189?-?). Edgar Mellard may have been a twin of Ernest Mellard.⁴⁹

4. Charlie Polk Mellard (August 22, 1863-September 18, 1864). The place of birth of Charlie Polk Mellard is not known. He was named for Captain Charles Polk of North Carolina, who was the grandfather of Mary Polk and a brother of Colonel Ezekiel Polk, the grandfather of President James K. Polk. Charlie Polk Mellard died in infancy and he probably was buried in Alabama.⁵⁰

5. Benjamin Walter Mellard (July 30, 1866-September 30, 1939). Benjamin Walter Mellard was born in Ashley County, Arkansas.⁵¹ He was a Methodist and he was baptized and converted at

the Keener Camp Ground in Ashley County, Arkansas.⁵² He was a farmer by occupation in his adult years. He married Beulah Annie Roberta McGee (October 3, 1874-September 25, 1917) on January 26, 1896. She was the daughter of John (?-?) and Ann Eliza Smith McGee (?-?). Beulah McGee was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and she died in Fordyce, Arkansas, where she was buried in the Oakland Memorial Cemetery. She was a Methodist.

The family lived at various times in Hamburg, El Dorado, Fordyce, and Arkadelphia, all in Arkansas.⁵³ In 1900, the family lived in El Dorado, according to the Census of that year, adjacent to the family of his older brother, William Elisha Mellard.⁵⁴ Benjamin Walter Mellard died in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, and he was buried in the Oakland Memorial Cemetery in Fordyce, Arkansas.⁵⁵ The eleven children of Benjamin Walter and Beulah Annie R. Mellard, nieces and nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, were:

A. Ira Wesley Mellard (July 3, 1897-). Ira Wesley Mellard was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and he is a Methodist.⁵⁶ He served in World War I and was stationed at one time with Frank Rogers, his cousin.⁵⁷ In 1924, he graduated from Henderson-Brown College (now Henderson State University) in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. His cousin Wesley Rogers was on the faculty there at the time.

On June 28, 1926, he married Marie Cornelia Giles (October 12, 1903-July 17, 1981), who was his college sweetheart and who was a music major, in Malvern, Arkansas. She was

born in Kingsland, Cleveland County, Arkansas, and was a Methodist. She was the daughter of H.O. (?-?) and Lilly Daniel Giles (?-?). She died in Pomona, Los Angeles County, California, and was buried in the Pomona Cemetery. Both Ira Wesley and Marie Cornelia Mellard were teachers.

After living for a number of years at 1033 Cathedral, Pomona, California 91768, Ira Wesley Mellard remarried and in 1983 was living in Arkansas near his daughter, Ruth Brown. He and his first wife had six sons and four daughters, who are great-nieces and great-nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

i. Cornelia Roberta Mellard (October 20, 1927-). Cornelia Roberta Mellard was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and she attended the Jones School. On October 5, 1946, she married John Arch McGill (?-). They have three children, a great-great nephew and two great-great nieces of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

a. John R. McGill, M.D. (?-).

b. Marcie Lynn McGill, (?-), who is not married.

c. Jan Marie McGill (?-).

ii. Ira W. "Bud" Mellard, Jr. (October 17, 1929-). "Bud" Mellard was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and he attended the Jones School. On May 29, 1952, he married Mary L. Dalton (?-) in Pomona, California.

They have three children, two great-great nephews and a great-great niece of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

a. Steven Mellard (adopted) (?-).

b. Leanne Mellard (adopted) (?-).

c. Jeffry Mellard (?-).

iii. Betty L. Mellard (January 29, 1931-). Betty Mellard was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and she attended the Jones School. On May 27, 1952, she married Albert L. Hanson (?-) in Pomona, California. They have three children, two great-great nieces and a great-great nephew of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

a. Linda Hanson (?-).

b. Sandra Hanson (?-).

c. Ray Hanson (?-).

iv. John Pershing Mellard (November 11, 1932-December 12, 1932). John Pershing Mellard was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and he was buried in the Parker's Chapel Cemetery in El Dorado, Arkansas.

v. Giles Benjamin Mellard (October 13, 1934-). Giles Benjamin Mellard was born in Childester, Ouachita County, Arkansas. On February 10, 1955, he married Florence E. Dill (?-) in Pomona, California. They have two daughters, great-great nieces of Henrietta Alice

Mellard Rogers.

a. Sheryl Lynn Mellard (?-).

b. Lauri Ellen Mellard (?-).

vi. Ruth Marie Mellard (August 8, 1936-). Ruth Marie Mellard was born in Buena Vista, Ouachita County, Arkansas. On July 10, 1953, she married Thomas Ryan Brown (?-) in El Dorado, Arkansas. They have two daughters and three sons, great-great nieces and nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

a. Karen Brown (?-).

b. Cindy Brown (?-).

c. Michael Brown (?-).

d. Danny Brown (?-).

e. Todd Brown (?-).

vii. Jimmy Wayne Mellard (December 3, 1938-). Jimmy Wayne Mellard was born in El Dorado, Arkansas. On August 28, 1964, he married Laura Ann Johnson (?-) in Pomona, California. They have one son, a great-great nephew of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

a. Anthony James Mellard (?-).

viii. Melvin Bruce Mellard (May 20, 1941-). Melvin Bruce Mellard was born in Lawson, Union County, Arkan-

sas. On February 23, 1963, he married Bonnie Marie Beck (?-), but they were later divorced. They had two children, a great-great nephew and niece of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

a. Denise Belle Mellard (?-).

b. Byron Lee Mellard (?-). (N.B.: "? adopted by couple" in source material)

ix. Robert Lee Mellard (August 28, 1943-). Robert Lee Mellard was born in El Dorado, Arkansas. On December 26, 1964, he married Sharon Mae Harlin (?-), but they were later divorced. There may be a son of this marriage.

x. Margaret Ann Mellard (January 9, 1947-). Margaret Ann Mellard was born in El Dorado, Arkansas. On April 10, 1965, she married Darrell W. Bazzell (?-) in Pomona, California. They have three daughters, great-great nieces of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

a. Darla Kay Bazzell (?-).

b. Debora Kristine Bazzell (?-).

c. Rebecca Lynn Bazzell (?-).⁵⁸

B. Iva Mae Mellard (July 3, 1897-July 3, 1897). Iva Mae Mellard was a twin of Ira Wesley Mellard, but she died at birth. She probably was buried in Union County, Arkansas.

C. Mamie Vera Mellard (September 29, 1899-December 28, 1973). Mamie Vera Mellard was born in El Dorado, Arkansas. On September 26, 1932, she married Lewis H. Norton (?-) in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. They had no children. She died in Arkadelphia and was buried in the Copeland Ridge Cemetery in Arkadelphia.

D. Ann Irene Mellard (December 7, 1901-). Ann Irene Mellard was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and she never married. She holds the M.A. degree from the University of Colorado (1945) and for a number of years she was a teacher of English at the high school level, later becoming a librarian. She is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Delta Kappa Gamma. She currently resides at 813 Southwest Drive, Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401. For a number of years she had been interested in the genealogy of the Mellard and related families. As can be seen from the footnotes to this section, she has been responsible for compiling most of the data used herein on the Mellard and related families.

E. John Allen Mellard (December 24, 1903-January 12, 1904). John Allen Mellard was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and he was buried with his maternal grandparents in the Wyatt Cemetery, near El Dorado, Arkansas.

F. Bertha Lee Mellard (February 22, 1905-August 27, 1921). Bertha Lee Mellard was born in Fordyce, Arkansas, and she died at the age of 16, unmarried, in Arkadelphia, Arkan-

sas. She was buried in the Oakland Memorial Cemetery in Fordyce, Arkansas.

G. Martha Elizabeth Mellard (August 3, 1908-) (twin). Martha Elizabeth Mellard was born in Fordyce, Arkansas. On July 14, 1935, she married Joe T. Smith (?-). In 1974? she married J. A. Jones (?-). There was a daughter, a great-niece of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, by the first marriage.

i. Julia Smith (?-). Julia Smith married Glen Taylor (?-).

H. Mary Eliza Mellard (August 3, 1908-December 15, 1973) (twin). Mary Eliza Mellard was born in Fordyce, Arkansas. On February 16, 1935, she married C.B. Atkinson (?-?) in Fort Smith, Arkansas. She died on December 15, 1973, in St. Bernard Hospital in Jonesboro, Arkansas, and she was buried in the Dollarhide Cemetery in Foreman, Arkansas, beside her husband. They had two children, great-nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

i. Ben Atkinson (?-).

ii. Joe Atkinson (?-).

I. Alice Edna Mellard (August 15, 1911-). Alice Edna Mellard was born in El Dorado, Arkansas. On November 30, 1932, she married Cecil Woodul (?-). They had two children, a great nephew and a great niece of Henrietta Alice Mellard

Rogers.

i. James E. Woodul (?-). James E. Woodul is retired from the U.S. Air Force.

ii. Mary Ann Woodul (?-). Mary Ann Woodul married Bennie Spier (?-). It was she who started much of the work of compiling the history of the Mellard family.

J. Willie May "Billie" Mellard (May 5, 1914-). "Billie" Mellard was born in El Dorado, Arkansas. On May 20, 1940, she married Don Lewis Van Horn (?-) in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

K. Unnamed infant Mellard (September 12, 1917- September 12, 1917).⁵⁹

6. Jesse James Mellard (November 5, 1869-November 24, 1941). Jesse James Mellard was born in Hamburg, Ashley County, Arkansas,⁶⁰ or perhaps 12 miles east of Hamburg.⁶¹ He was baptized as a Methodist in August, 1882 by H.H. Gold/Leod?⁶² Jesse James Mellard became a Methodist minister and his first appointment, in 1876, was to the Hatton Circuit,⁶³ where his sister, Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, lived. He married Etta L. Worthington on March 6, 1898.⁶⁴

Etta L. Worthington (March 15, 1872-February 5, 1926) was born near Camden, Arkansas, the daughter of T.B. (?-?) and Charity C. Worthington (?-?). Etta L. Worthington Mellard died in Little Rock, Arkansas, and she was buried in the Oakland Memorial Cemetery in Fordyce, Arkansas.⁶⁵

The following biography of Etta L. Worthington appeared in the Centennial History of Arkansas Methodism, 1815-1935, p. 281:

Mrs. Etta L. Mellard died in an infirmary at Little Rock, February 5, 1926. She was the daughter of T.B. and C.C. Worthington, and was born near Camden, Ark., March 15, 1872. She was married, March 6, 1898, to J.J. Mellard, who with five children, Beulah Mae, James Henry, Odessa, Eulita, and Corrine are left to mourn their loss. Three other children born to this union died in early childhood. Besides the husband and children she leaves one sister Mrs. C.J. March, and two brothers, W.L. Worthington, and Victor. Her parents were earnest and exemplary Christians and wholehearted Methodists. Their children were dedicated to God in infancy and reared in the atmosphere of devotion to God and to the Church. Etta could not remember the time when she did not love the Lord and try to be good. When only a little girl she definitely trusted in Christ as her Savior and was received into the Methodist Church by her pastor. For twenty-eight years she shared with her husband the joys and sorrows of an itinerant preacher's life.

In 1926, Ann Mellard heard Rev. J.J. Mellard preach for the only time. This was in Eudora, Arkansas and the sermon was on Columbus discovering a new world. J.J. Mellard's daughter, Beula Mae, graduated from college in 1926.⁶⁶

In 1928, J.J. Mellard said, "Since I was appointed as Conference Evangelist I have been boarding and have left my books or library elsewhere and my records are not available just now."

He added that, "my wife died a little more than two years ago." In a reference to his children, he stated that "My son (James Harry Mellard) is taking a Business course and the three youngest daughters (Odessa Mellard, Euleta Mellard, and Corrine Mellard) are in college and high school and the oldest daughter (Beulah Mae Mellard) is teaching."⁶⁷

Rev. Jesse James Mellard served many appointments in Methodist churches in Arkansas. He died as a result of a car accident on November 24, 1941, and he, too, was buried in the Oakland Memorial Cemetery in Fordyce, Arkansas.⁶⁸ An obituary appears on page 298 of the Centennial History of Arkansas Methodism.⁶⁹

The children of Jesse James and Etta L. Mellard, nieces and nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, were:

A. Jessie Etta Mellard (June 19, 1899-October 16, 1904). Jessie Etta Mellard died in Princeton, Arkansas.

B. Ovita Worthington Mellard (October 7, 1901-November 16, 1903). Ovita Mellard died in Princeton, Arkansas.

C. Millie Pauline Mellard (September 25, 1903-December 15, 1908). Millie Mellard died in Princeton, Arkansas.

D. Beulah Mae Mellard (October 31, 1904-1972). Beulah Mae Mellard was born in Princeton, Arkansas. In August, 1928, she married Lucien Edwin Coleman (?-) at the home of her aunt, Mrs. C.J. March, in Fordyce, Arkansas.

Lucien Edwin Coleman was a graduate of Ouachita Baptist College (now University) in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. He was a lawyer in Arkansas for some 21 years and served in both the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Arkansas General Assembly. He also served as general secretary of the Arkansas Baptist Convention and in 1958 joined the Brotherhood Commission. He later served with the Kentucky Baptist

Convention. He remarried after the death of his first wife.

The children of Lucien Edwin Coleman and Beulah Mae Mellard Coleman, great-nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, are:

i. Lucien Edwin Coleman, Jr. (March 8, 1931-). Lucien Coleman, Jr. married Bobbie Holland (?-). Their children, great-great nieces and a great-great nephew of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, are:

- a. Vivian Lu Coleman (?-).
- b. Joy Lynette Coleman (?-).
- c. Robert Martin Coleman (?-).

ii. Robert Finley Coleman (?-). Robert Coleman married Roselyn Napier (?-). Their daughter, a great-great niece of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, is:

- a. Susan Frances Coleman (?-).

E. James Harry Mellard (May 2, 1907-). James Harry Mellard was born in Redfield, Arkansas. He married Ruby Dent (?-). They live at 7031 Oak Cliff Road, Memphis, Tennessee 38100. Their children, great-nieces and great-nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, are:

- i. James Thomas Mellard (?-).
- ii. Etta Lea Mellard (?-).

iii. Brenda Mellard (?-).

iv. Ronnie Mellard (?-).

F. Odessa Mellard (January 20, 1908-). Odessa Mellard was born in Prescott, Arkansas. She married Arthur Leggett (1902-January, 1971), who was a Methodist, a Mason, a Shriner, and a railroad clerk. He also served as mayor of Smackover, Arkansas. They had no children.

G. Euleta Mellard (April 2, 1909-). Euleta Mellard was born in Center Point, Arkansas. Her first marriage was to Hugh Mizzell (?-?) and they had one daughter. Her second marriage was to Everett Hood (?-), a planter of Earle, Arkansas. There were no children of the second marriage. The address of Euleta Mellard Hood is Box 601, Earle, Arkansas 72331. Euleta Mellard Mizzell Hood's daughter, a great-niece of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, is:

i. Zinetta Mizzell (?-). Zinetta Mizzell married Bobby Brooks (?-). Their son, a great-great nephew of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, is:

a. Rocky Brooks (?-).

H. Corrine Mellard (February 29, 1912-). Corrine Mellard was born in Lewisville, Arkansas. She married John S. Mosby, Sr. (1903-November 13, 1976). They had one son and her address is Drawer M, Lepanto, Arkansas 72354.

John S. Mosby, Sr. graduated from the University of Arkansas Law School in 1925 and he practiced law in Lepanto, Arkansas, for a number of years. He served as mayor of Lepanto from 1927-1932. In 1943, he was elected to a term as Representative in the Arkansas General Assembly and in 1945 he was elected to the state Senate, where he served until 1949.

He was an active civic leader and served as past president of the Lepanto Lions and Rotary clubs. He was also a Mason and Shriner, was active in the Sons of the Confederacy, and was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Lepanto. In 1963, he was appointed as senior judge in the Second Judicial District in East Arkansas, a seven-county district.

He died at Baptist Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. He was buried on November 15, 1976, in Carter Memorial Cemetery in Lepanto.

The son of Judge John S. and Corrine Mellard Mosby, Sr., a great-nephew of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, is:

i. John S. Mosby, Jr. (?-). John S. Mosby, Jr. is a physician and he lives in Lepanto, Arkansas.⁷⁰

7. Minnie Mae/May Mellard (September 1, 1872-November 25, 1895). Minnie Mellard was born in Arkansas.⁷¹ She was a Methodist, had a common school education, and was a teacher.⁷² She lived a part of her life with her sister, Henrietta Alice Mellard

Rogers, and her sister's family, in Chapel Hill, Sevier County, Arkansas.⁷³

Ann Mellard provided the letter given below, adding that

...Aunt Minnie Mellard...once lived in the IRA ROGERS home and was also buried in their cemetery near her sister Alice.... The letter shows her love of the Rogers children and it must have been written after she started teaching and was away at school. Evidently my middle name Irene came from the little girl to whom she was writing a letter.... The letter is too fragile to last much, if any, longer, but it represents all that I know about Aunt Minnie Mellard. Note that she and my Dad were closer in age and Uncle Jess and Aunt Mattie were the youngest children....⁷⁴

Miss Ella Irene Rogers, (Probably early 1890's, place not known)

Dear little sweetie, you will want a letter as bad as any of the boys so I'll write to you too. Have you forgotten me yet? What do you do for some one to talk to and some one to sleep with since I left?

Has mamma made you a new bonnet or any new dresses since we left? If she has, send me a scrap.

Do you ever go to see May and Cora and do they come to see you? What has Sister Powell named her boy? There is a little girl here just about your size named Pearl Freeland and has curly hair just about the color of yours. She comes out to see us two or three times every day. Whenever her mama curls her hair she comes running to show me her pretty curls just like you did. Her bangs curl without being rolled. She has a little black pup she calls Poodle. You ought to hear her little brother, younger than she is, calling him. He gets out " 'er Poodle le Poodle le Poodle" every once and a while, as bad as you boys were after your pup. How large is your pup now? Be a good sweet little girl. Good by.

Your Aunt Minnie⁷⁵

Minnie Mellard never married. She died of a "slow fever" and was buried at Chapel Hill, Sevier County, Arkansas.⁷⁶

8. Martha Elizabeth ("Mattie") Mellard (April 11, 1875-January 6, 1948). "Mattie" Mellard was born near Hamburg, Arkansas.⁷⁷ She was a Methodist and had a common school education.⁷⁸ She is said to have spent part of her early life with her sister, Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, and her family.⁷⁹ On February 7, 1900, she married Frank Wesley Lawrence (?-August 21, 1963) in El Dorado, Arkansas. He was the son of William Samuel Lawrence (1851-1921) and Eliza Reynolds Lawrence (1852-1889). Frank Wesley Lawrence was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and he was a farmer and a Methodist. He was buried in the old Parker's Chapel Cemetery. Their eight children, nieces and nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, were:

A. Effie Irene Lawrence (November 19, 1900-July 1, 1954). Effie Irene Lawrence was born in El Dorado, Arkansas. On May 10, 1919, she married Hubert Schmitz (?-?) in El Dorado, Arkansas. She later married Dunk Foster (?-?). She died in El Dorado, Arkansas, and was buried in the old Parker's Chapel Cemetery in El Dorado, Arkansas.

B. Fred Warner Lawrence (September 12, 1902-May 22, 1965). Fred Lawrence was born in El Dorado, Arkansas. On December 24, 1933, he married Julia Plotner (?-1949). She died a victim of a tornado in Coatsville, Indiana. Fred Warner Lawrence married Mrs. Fern Green (?-) on July 9, 1950, in Indiana. He died in Fillmore, Indiana.

C. Nettie Lucille Lawrence (September 7, 1905-). Nettie Lawrence was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and she has

never married. She lives at Rt. 6, Box 78, El Dorado, Arkansas.

D. Unnamed infant Lawrence (January 29, 1908-February 5, 1908). The baby was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and died there.

E. Etta Mae Lawrence (April 1, 1909-197?). Etta Mae Lawrence was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and she never married.

F. Horace Jewel Lawrence (January 19, 1913-June 29, 1924). Horace Lawrence was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and died at the age of 11, possibly of appendicitis.

G. David Harvey Lawrence (September 3, 1916-September 12, 1916). David Harvey Lawrence was born in El Dorado, Arkansas, and he died there.

H. Edna Elizabeth Lawrence (December 20, 1917-). Edna Elizabeth Lawrence was born in El Dorado, Arkansas. On August 4, 1946, she married John Robert Warren (?-), a Methodist minister. They have two adopted sons, great-nephews of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

i. John Robert Warren (?-).

ii. George Franklin Warren (?-).⁸⁰

Father of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers

The father of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers was Seaborn

James Mellard (June 8, 1834-April 26, 1882). He was born in Alabama, the oldest of the seven children of Elisha Asbury Mellard (September 23, 1811-October 8, 1875) and Elizabeth Jane Mims Mellard (September 19?20?, 1815-September 5?15?, 1852).⁸¹

Seaborn James Mellard married Martha Deborah Howie (May 19, 1836-June 22, 1875) in Ellis Chapel, Livingston, Sumter County, Alabama,⁸² on March 18, 1855.⁸³ The marriage documents read as follows:

Marriage License

State of Alabama, Sumter County.

To any person lawfully authorized to solemnize marriages within said State, Greetings:

You are hereby authorized to celebrate the Rite of Matrimony between:

Seaborn J. Mellard and Martha D. Howie and required to return Marriage License, and Certificate, fully certified under your hand, to the Probate Judge of the aforesaid County.

Witness my name as Judge of Probate at the Courthouse in Livingston, Alabama, this the 17 day of March, A.D. 1855.

B.J.H. Gaines,
Judge of Probate

Marriage Certificate

I certify that the within named Seaborn J. Mellard and Martha D. Howie were by me, the undersigned, joined in marriage, by the authority of the within License. Done this 18 day of March, A.D. 1855, in the County of -----, City or Town of ----, in the State of Alabama.

R.M. Sanders

Minister of Gospel⁸⁴

The eight children of Seaborn J. Mellard and Martha D. Howie Mellard are given in the previous section.⁸⁵ The family moved

from Alabama to Ashley County, Arkansas, sometime between 1860 and 1866, according to the locations of the births of their children. In 1870, according to the Census of Ashley County, Arkansas, Seaborn Mellard, age 36 and a farmer, was living with his family in Beech Creek Township. Sarah Mellard is also listed with this household at that time. In 1875, Martha Deborah Howie Mellard, the wife and mother, died. (See following section.)

In 1880, according to the Census of Ashley County, Arkansas, Seaborn J. Mellard, age 46, was living in dwelling #12 in Beech Creek Township, with his sons William (24), Benjamin (14), and Jesse (11), and his daughters Minnie (8) and Mattie (5). However, according to Ann Mellard,

their Aunt Betty (Elizabeth Pyers) lived in dwelling #27 and may have been near enough to help with the children. When the father, Seaborn J. Mellard, died 26 April 1882, I suppose the four youngest members of his family went to stay with their sister, Henrietta Alice Rogers. Ben, Jesse, Minnie, and Mattie Mellard had their pictures made with the Rogers family when the first set of twins were still in long dresses and held on the laps of their parents. (They would have been two years older than the 1880 census records show.) Their mother, Martha D. Howie Mellard, had died on June 12, after her last child, Mattie, was born on 11 April 1875. Their sister, Henrietta Alice, must have kept the household going from 1875 until her marriage in December of 1878.⁸⁶

Seaborn James Mellard died in Hamburg, Arkansas.⁸⁷ His burial place is not known.

Mother of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers

The mother of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers was Martha Deborah Howie Mellard (May 19, 1836-June 12, 1875). She was born in Alabama, the daughter of William Howie (1797-1866) and his

wife Mary Polk Howie (December, 1799-1844). Martha Deborah Howie was a Methodist. In 1850, according to the Census of Sumter County, Alabama, she lived with her family, including her step-mother, Julia A. Howie (?-?), in or near Livingston, Alabama. On March 18, 1855, Martha Deborah Howie married Seaborn J. Mellard in Livingston, Alabama (see previous section). Their eight children have been previously mentioned. She moved with her family from Alabama to Ashley County, Arkansas, sometime between 1860 and 1866, according to the locations of the births of the children. In 1870, she and her family were living in Beech Creek Township in Ashley County, Arkansas, according to the Census. She died in Hamburg, Arkansas, leaving several small children.⁸⁸ Her burial place is not known.

Howie Uncles and Aunts of Henrietta Alice Mallard Rogers and Their Families

The brothers and sisters of Martha Deborah Howie Mallard, the Howie uncles and aunts of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, included:

1. Margaret Elizabeth Howie (1821?4?-?). Margaret Elizabeth Howie was born in North Carolina, according to the 1850 Census of Sumter County, Alabama. Her first marriage was to Evan S. Womble (1821-?), who was also born in North Carolina. In 1850, they were living in the Jones Bluff area of Sumter County, Alabama, according to the Census, where he was a "manager." She later was married to a Mr. Pyers (?-?) and, in 1880 she was living in Beech Creek Township, Ashley County, Arkansas, according to the Census. According to Ann Mellard, there was a son of the first marriage,

who was a first cousin of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

A. William S. Womble (1858-?). William S. Womble was born in Arkansas, according to the 1880 Census of Ashley County, Arkansas.

2. Ellen I. Howie (1831-?). According to the 1850 Census of Sumter County, Alabama, Ellen I. Howie was born in Alabama.

3. Michael Polk Howie (1832?3?-?). According to both the 1850 Census of Sumter County, Alabama, and the 1880 Census of Ashley County, Arkansas, Michael P. Howie was born in Alabama. His first marriage was to Nancy Elizabeth Mellard (1836-November 14, 1868), the sister of his sister's (Martha Deborah Howie) husband (Seaborn J. Mellard) on November 12, 1855. They had four children (James C., Alexander E., Mary P., and Sallie E.), all in Alabama, before the death of Nancy Elizabeth Mellard Howie in 1868.

Michael P. Howie then married a woman named Lettie G. ? (1843-?), who was born in Alabama and whose parents had been born in Virginia and North Carolina, according to the 1880 Census of Ashley County, Arkansas. The family apparently moved to Arkansas between 1868 and 1874. Michael P. and Lettie G. Howie lived in dwelling #128 in Beech Creek Township, Ashley County, Arkansas, in 1880, with the four children of the first marriage and the three children of the second marriage, according to the Census data. These children, first cousins of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, (the older ones being double first cousins), included:

A. James C. Howie (1859-?). James C. Howie may have been born in Mississippi.

B. Alexander E. Howie (1861-?). Alexander E. Howie was born in Alabama.

C. Mary P. Howie (1866-?). Mary P. Howie was born in Alabama.

D. Sallie E. Howie (1868-?). Sallie E. Howie was born in Alabama.

E. Willie Howie (1874-). Willie Howie (female) was born in Arkansas.

F. Thomas M. Howie (1876-?). Thomas M. Howie was born in Arkansas.

G. Walter C. Howie (1879-?). Walter C. Howie was born in Arkansas.

4. (Martha Deborah Howie, the subject of a previous section.)

5. John W. Howie (1841-?). According to the 1850 Census of Sumter County, Alabama, John W. Howie was born in Alabama.

Robert A. Howie may have been one of the children of this family. He was born in 1857, when William Howie would have been 60 years old and Julia A. Howie would have been 54 years old, or, more likely, he may have been one of the grandchildren of William

and Julia A. Howie. He may have been born in Mississippi, according to the 1880 Census data of Ashley County, Arkansas. In 1880, he lived in dwelling #27 in Beech Creek Township in Ashley County, Arkansas, with his wife Sallie B. Howie (1862-?), who was born in Arkansas and whose parents had been born in Alabama. He lived in the same township at that time as Seaborn J. Mellard, John Peacock, and Michael P. Howie, who were all apparently relatives or in-laws of various sorts.⁸⁹ Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers made a reference to a Bob Howie in one of her letters. (See Part III.)

Howie Grandparents of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers

The parents of Martha Deborah Howie Mellard, the maternal grandparents of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, were William Howie (1797-1866) and his wife Mary Polk Howie (1799-1844).⁹⁰

William Howie. According to the 1850 Census of Sumter County, Alabama, William Howie was born in North Carolina. According to Ann Mellard, his "parents...were from Mecklenburg Co., N.C."⁹¹ Nothing further is known of his family background. William Howie married Mary Polk in 1823 in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. The marriage bond reads as follows:

State of North Carolina
Mecklenburg County

Know all Men by these Presents, that we, William Howie and John Pope in the State aforesaid are held and firmly bound unto the Governor of the State of North Carolina for the time being, in the just and full sum of five hundred pounds, current money of this State, to be paid to the said Governor, or his successors or assigns: To the which payment well and truly to be made and done,

we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators. Sealed with our seals, and dated this 9th day of May A.D. 1823.

The Condition of the above Obligation is such, That whereas the above bounden William Howie hath made application for a License for a Marriage, to be celebrated between him and Polly Polk of the county aforesaid: Now in case it shall not appear hereafter that there is any lawful cause to obstruct the said Marriage, then the above obligation to be void...otherwise to remain in full force and vitue,

Sealed and Delivered in Presence of

Isaac A--des

William Howie

John Pope⁹²

According to Ann Mellard, "Rev. William Howie...preached for some time in Mississippi, but located in Alabama."⁹³ A William Howie is given in the 1830 Census of Dallas County, Alabama, along with two persons named John Howie. In 1844, his wife died, leaving him with five children ranging in age from 22 to five. At the time they were apparently living near Livingston, Sumter County, Alabama. (See following section on Mary "Polly" Polk.)

In 1850, according to the Census of Sumter County, Alabama, William Howie and his second wife Julia A. Flowers (?-?)⁹⁴ were living with four of the children in that county. William Howie was given as living in dwelling #541 and as a farmer with \$350 worth of real estate. Julia Flowers Howie was given as being born in South Carolina. In 1853, William Howie was still in Livingston, Alabama.⁹⁵ Nothing is known of his last years.

Mary Polk Howie. The following notice appeared in the October 18, 1844 issue of the Southern Christian Advocate:

Died, near Livingston, Sumter circuit, Ala., in the 45th year of her age, Mrs. Mary Howie, consort of the Rev. Wm. Howie, the daughter of Michael and Susan Polk, born in Mecklenburg county, N.C., December 1799.... T.W. Dorman, Livingston, Ala., Oct. 4, 1844.⁹⁶

According to Ann Mellard,

Uncle IRA ROGERS told me that Mary Polk, the wife of Rev. Wm. Howie, was related to the James K. Polk family. I think that Michael Polk (who later went to Alabama) was her father....⁹⁷

Polk Great-Grandparents of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers

The parents of Mary Polk Howie, who were the great-grandparents of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, were Michael (June 20, 1774-?) and Susanna Pyron Polk (February 26, 1774-?). Michael Polk was the son of Charles (July 29, 1732-March 10, 1821) and Mary Clark Polk (?-1776).⁹⁸

Polk Great-Great Uncles and Aunts of Henrietta Alice Mellard and Their Families

The brothers and sisters of Michael Polk, the great-great uncles and aunts of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, were:

1. Peggy Polk (December 25, 1764-?). Peggy Polk married William Freeman (June 24, 1765-?).

2. John Polk (November 17, 1766-?). John Polk married Esther Pool (?-?). He lived in Hardeman County, Tennessee later in his life.

3. Deborah Polk (December 10, 1768-?). Deborah Polk married Gideon Freeman (July 12, 1759-?) (a brother of William Freeman,

who married her sister?), who was living in Granville County, North Carolina, in 1790. In 1820, they were living on land owned by her father, Charles Polk, as Charles Polk provided in his will that Deborah was to have the land she was living on during her lifetime. How long they lived there is not known. Tradition says they had four daughters, the order of birth not known. These women were first cousins, twice removed, of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers:

A. Peggy Freeman (?-?). Peggy Freeman married a Mr. Ford (?-?).

B. Betty Freeman (?-?). Betty Freeman married a Mr. Cagle (?-?).

C. Sallie Freeman (?-?).

D. Deborah Freeman (1803?-November 8, 1889). Deborah Freeman was said to be a blond and very pretty. She first married James McLarty (?-September 4, 1837) in about 1828. He was a widower with several children. James and Deborah McLarty had five children, whose names are not known. After a few years they became dissatisfied and wanted to "press on to new fields," so they gathered up their family and goods and joining other families, went to Georgia about 1835, settling in Douglas County. James McLarty was buried in Douglas County near Douglasville. After her first husband's death, Deborah Freeman McLarty married Hiram Brown (?-?) on May 10, 1838. They had five children, whose names are not known. Deborah Freeman McLarty Brown was buried with her

second husband in the Brown Cemetery in Cobb County, near Austell, Georgia.

4. Thomas Polk (February 28, 1771-?). Thomas Polk married Keziah Prior (February 18, 1768-?), and they lived in Hardeman County, Tennessee.

5. (Michael Polk, the subject of a previous section.)

6. Mary Polk (September 24, 1776-?). Mary Polk married John Brooks (?-?).

(The former children were those of Mary Clark Polk; those that follow were the children of Phoebe Helms Polk.)

7. Charles Polk, Jr. (March 15, 1784-?).

8. William Polk (April 10, 1786-?). William Polk lived in Hardeman County, Tennessee.

9. Susanna Polk (June 19, 1788-?). Susanna Polk married Thomas Love (?-?).

10. Ezekiel Polk (June 9, 1791-?). Ezekiel Polk lived in Hardeman County, Tennessee.

11. Martha Washington Polk (May 4, 1794-?). Martha Polk married Moses Shelby (?-?).

12. George Washington Polk (September 18, 1799-?). G.W. Polk married Margaret Garman (?-?) on December 4, 1823.

13. Eleanor Polk (January 16, 1804-?).⁹⁹

Polk Great-Great Grandparents of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers

The Polk great-great grandparents of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers were Charles (July 29, 1732-March 10, 1821) and Mary Clark Polk (June 6, 1744-October 8, 1776). Charles Polk was born in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, near the present town of Carlisle. About 1750 he moved with his parents to North Carolina. Charles Polk then settled on Rocky River in Anson County, North Carolina.¹⁰⁰ He married in 1862.¹⁰¹ As a young man, he acquired much land in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, and he lived there until his death. On June 7, 1766, he was a Lieutenant in Captain Adam Alexander's Company of Militia (the Clear Creek Company). He took an active part in the Revolution, served in the campaign against the Scotch Highland Tories and was Captain of the Brunswick Light Horse. The pension granted his widow for his Revolutionary service was for five months as Captain of Cavalry, nine months as Captain of Infantry and nine months and nineteen days as Captain of Cavalry. The record also states that he served under Lt. Col. William Polk.

After the death of his wife, Mary Clark Polk, in 1776, he married Phoebe Helms (June 10, 1764-January 12, 1849) on February 2, 1782. She was the daughter of George Helms (?-?) of the High Hill section.

Charles Polk was a member of the North Carolina House of Commons in the years 1793-1795.

He died at his home in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. His will was recorded there, naming as his executors his brother-in-law, Rev. Jacob Helms (?-?), and his sons, Michael and Charles. The Polks were buried in the Spratt burial ground near Charlotte, North Carolina. This land has been sold and houses build on it, the tombstones buried.

Will of Charles Polk

In the name of God, Amen. I, Charles Polk of the State of North Carolina, and County of Mecklenburg (farmer), being weak in body but of perfect sense and memory, thanks be to God, and calling to mind the mortality of body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, I do make and ordain this my last will and testament; that is to say principally and first of all, I give and recommend my soul to God that gave and my body I recommend to the earth to be buried in a decent Christian manner at the discretion of my friend, and as touching such worldly estate as it hath pleased God to bless me with in this life, I give and dispose of the same in the following manner and form, viz:

First: I give and bequeath to Phoebe my dear beloved wife the house where I now live and the household furniture and the kitchen furniture with all the tools of agriculture and thirty acres of land to have and to hold as long as she remains a widow, two negro women and two children, and their increase to the day of her marriage and then to be reverted to my son George W. Polk. The stok (sic) of cattle to be equally divided between Phoebe and George W. Polk and at her marriage and then to revert as the other. I give and bequeath one bed and furniture and her wearing apparel to do as she see cause.

Also I give to my son Charley Polk one negro man named Manuel, but he remains to serve her during her widowhood then to be reverted to Charley Polk, he paying two hundred dollars to Thomas Polk but the money not to be paid until the negro is delivered to him. Furthermore, I give and bequeath to my son William Polk one negro man named Smartt, his paying Two Hundred Dollars to John Polk and One Hundred to Michael Polk.

I give and bequeath to my son George W. Polk one negro man named Bob and two horses one ten years old and the other four, furthermore his paying Michael Polk one Hundred Dollars and Susannah Love One Hundred Dollars and Martha Shelby One Hundred Dollars. Furthermore, I give and bequeath to Phoebe, my wife, one mare named Tib and saddle to dispose of as she thinks best. Furthermore, the flock of sheep to be equally divided between Phoebe and George W. Polk.

Furthermore, I give that part of land whereon Gideon Freeman now lives to my daughter Deborah, her lifetime or widowhood, then to be reverted to George W. Polk, further I give and bequeath to my son in law Gideon Freeman five dollars, furthermore whereunto I have set my hand and affixed my seal, this 1st day of November, 1820.

Charles Polk

Robert Russell, Susannah Kiser

I also appoint Michael Polk and my son Charley Polk and Jacob Helms to be my Executors.¹⁰²

Polk Great-Great-Great Uncles and Aunts of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers and Their Families

The great-great-great uncles and aunts of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, the brothers and sisters of her great-great grandfather Charles Polk, were:

1. William Polk (?-?).¹⁰³ William Polk married prior to the time that his family moved to North Carolina, c1750. Where he lived is not known.¹⁰⁴

2. Deborah Polk (?-?). Deborah Polk married Samuel McLeary (?-?).

3. Thomas Polk (1730?-June 26, 1794). Thomas Polk married Susan Spratt (?-) in 1755. He was Colonel of Militia of Meck-

lenburg County, North Carolina, he was a Brigadier General during the Revolution, and he held other positions of distinction. He died at Charlotte, North Carolina.

4. (Charles Polk, the subject of a previous section.)

5. Susan Polk (?-?). Susan Polk married Benjamin Alexander (?-?).

6. Margaret Polk (?-?). Margaret Polk married Robert McRee (?-?) of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

7. John Polk (1739-?).¹⁰⁵ John Polk married in 1758 and settled near Rocky River in Anson County, North Carolina. The site was "some miles" to the east of Sugar Creek. He served as a captain of militia in the Revolution. John Polk later was a government agent among the Catawba Indians, living in South Carolina, where in 1803 his widow recorded her will.¹⁰⁶

8. Ezekiel Polk (December 7, 1741-1824). Ezekiel Polk married Mary Wilson (?-?). Among their children was Samuel Polk,¹⁰⁷ a first cousin, three times removed of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

A. Samuel Polk (July 5, 1772-November 5, 1827). Samuel Polk was born in Tryon, North Carolina. On December 25, 1794, he married Jane Knox Polk (November 15, 1776-January 11, 1852). She was probably born in Iredell County, North Carolina. Samuel Polk was a farmer, planter, and surveyor. He died in Columbia, Maury County, Tennessee. Jane Knox Polk probably died in the same place some years later. Samuel and

Jane Knox Polk had ten children, second cousins, twice removed of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers.

i. James Knox Polk (November 2, 1795-June 15, 1849). James Knox Polk was born in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. In 1806 he moved with his family to the valley of the Duck River, now in Maury County, Tennessee. In January, 1816, he entered the University of North Carolina as a sophomore. On June 4, 1818, he was graduated from that institution with first honors in mathematics and the classics. He delivered the Latin salutatory. In 1819 he read law in the office of Felix Grundy in Nashville, Tennessee, and on September 20 of that year he was appointed clerk of the Tennessee Senate, then sitting in Murfreesboro. He continued to serve as clerk of the Senate through 1822. In the meantime, he was admitted to the bar in 1820 in Columbia, Tennessee. In that same year and place, he became a Master Mason. In 1823 he was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives.

On January 1, 1824, he married Sarah Childress (September 4, 1803-August 14, 1891) in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. She was born near Murfreesboro, the daughter of Joel Childress (?-?), a merchant and farmer, and his wife Elizabeth Whitsitt (?-?). James Knox and Sarah Childress Polk had no children. She died in Nashville, Tennessee.

In August, 1825, James Knox Polk was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and in 1835 he was elected Speaker of the House after having served in a number of important positions. In 1839 he resigned from the House of Representatives to run for Governor of Tennessee, to which he was elected in that year. However, in 1841, he was defeated for re-election as Governor.

In 1843, he was an unsuccessful candidate for Governor. However, in 1844, he was nominated for President of the United States by the Democratic national convention, sitting in Baltimore. In the election of 1844, he defeated the Whig candidate, Henry Clay, by receiving 170 of the 275 electoral votes. James Knox Polk served as President of the United States from March 4, 1845, to March 4, 1849. He did not seek renomination for a second term.

He left Washington on March 4, 1849, and toured the Southern route to his new home in Nashville. While aboard a steamer on the Mississippi he became dangerously ill, rallied in time for homecoming ceremonies in Nashville, but died a short time later of diarrhea in Nashville.

ii. Jane Maria Polk (1798-?).

iii. Lydia Eliza Polk (1800-?).

iv. Franklin Ezekiel Polk (1802-?).

- v. Marshall Tate Polk (1805-?).
- vi. John Lee Polk (1807-?).
- vii. Naomi Tate Polk (1809-?).
- viii. Ophelia Clariss Polk (1812-?).
- ix. William Hawkins Polk (1815-?).
- x. Samuel Wilson Polk (1817-?).¹⁰⁸

Polk Great-Great-Great Grandparents of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers

The Polk great-great-great grandparents of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers were William Polk, Jr. (1700?-1753?) and Margaret Taylor (?-1765?). William Polk, Jr. was born at "White Hall," his father's home in Maryland, about 1700. Apparently he and his brother, Charles, left home after his father's second marriage and William Polk settled in the vicinity of what is now Carlisle, Pennsylvania, a region then a part of the frontier.¹⁰⁹

By the early 1750's, the good lands in the Cumberland valley were all occupied, and with William's older sons approaching the age when they would want farms of their own, the Polks began to think of joining the hundreds of Cumberland families who were already trekking down the Great Wagon Road through the Valley of Virginia into the empty southern upcountry. The third son, Thomas...led the way.... Thomas was soon joined by the rest of his family.... (Three of William Polk's wife's sisters had married members of Alexander clan.) William Polk the elder seems to have died shortly after reaching the new country, and the older children quickly left the parental roof to marry, clear farms, and raise families of their own. William's widow could hardly have supported herself and little Ezekiel from the occasional fees she received as midwife, and it seems that

both of them were taken into the household of Thomas, the most prosperous of the brothers.¹¹⁰

William Polk's wife, Margaret, lived a good while after her husband's death, at least until after 1765, as there was a receipt for a sum of money, dated in the year 1765, found in Captain Charles Polk's private papers, signed by Margaret Taylor Polk.¹¹¹

Polk Great-Great-Great-Great Uncles and Aunts of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers and Their Families

The Polk great-great-great-great uncles and aunts of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, the brothers and sisters of her great-great-great grandfather William Polk, Jr., were:

1. Elizabeth Polk (1695?-?). Elizabeth Polk married John Williams (?-?) of Somerset, Maryland.
2. (William Polk, Jr., the subject of the previous section.)
3. Charles Polk (1703?-1753?). Charles Polk married Christian Matson (?-?). He died between March 19, 1753, when his will was dated, and June 20, 1753, when the will was proved.

(The persons named above were the children of William Polk, Sr. and his first wife, Nancy Knox Owen; the persons named below were the children of William Polk, Sr. and his second wife, the widow Gray.)

4. James Polk (May 17, 1719-1770). James Polk first married Mary Cottman (?-?), and then Betty Cottman (?-?), the sister of his first wife. His will was proved April, 1771, in Frederick

County, Maryland. James Polk had a son named William, according to James Polk's father's will.

5. David Polk (1721-1778). David Polk married Betsy Gillis (?-?).

6. Jane Polk (1723-?). Jane Polk married James Strawbridge (?-?).¹¹²

Polk Great-Great-Great-Great Grandparents of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers

The Polk great-great-great-great grandparents of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers were William Polk (1664?-1739?) and Nancy Knox Owen (?-?). William Polk probably was born in Ireland or, if not, a few years after the arrival of his parents in Maryland. He lived at the old family home, "White Hall," on the eastern shore of Maryland. After the death of his first wife (after 1703), William Polk married a widow named Gray (?-?), probably the mother of Allen Gray (?-?), who is mentioned in the will of William Polk. His two older sons are not mentioned in his will but they probably received their shares in his property and left home after their father's second marriage. William Polk probably died near the end of 1739, as his will was proved February 24, 1740.

Will of William Polk

In the name of God, Amen. I, William Polk of the County of Somerset and Province of Maryland, being sick and weak of body but of perfect mind and memory (Blessed be God) do make, ordain, and constitute this my last will and testament (Revoking all other Wills by me heretofore made) in manner and form following:

Imprs. First, I bequeath my Soul into the hands of Almighty God that gave it, my body to the earth from whence it was taken, there to be buried with decentlike burial at the discretion of my Executor hereinafter named.

Item. I will that my just debts be justly paid.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my son David two negroes, the one named Oteen and the other Hannah, together with eight barrells of pork that is now killed in my house, and eight barrows not under year old and the advantage, and likewise five sows and piggs and the Bay mare and colt and my gray horse, one feather bed and furniture belonging to it (curtains only excepted), one large pewter dish, one iron pot about eight gallons and one small iron kettle, the one half part of the still now standing on my plantation, together with five sheep, three cows, one with her yearling, the other two with her two year old steers, one curb'd bridle of Wilks make, six and a half yards of linnen, it being the half of a remnant left in the house at the decease of my wife, and ten pounds in paper money, and seven yards of linnen which was made in the house last summer, a waistcoat of kersey for Oteen all to the proper use and behoof of him the said David Polk, his heirs and assigns, forever, together with the one half part of my coopers tools.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Williams one negro woman named Amy, three cows with their yearlings, eight barrows, five sows and pigs, one red rugg, one hundred acres of land called or known by the name of Ramoth, situate, lying and being in the county aforesaid, together with five barrells of pork, all to the proper use and behoof of her the said Elizabeth Williams, her heirs and assigns forever, together with one iron pott about eight gallons.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Jane Strawbridge ten shillings sterling to the only proper use and behoof of her the said Jane her heirs and assigns forever.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my grandson William Polk, son of James, one negro woman named Pleasant, my gray riding mare, bridle and saddle, one gun the stock being broke, one feather bed with sheets, blankets and quilt, together with curtains and vallains belonging to it, to the only proper use and behoof of him the said William Polk, his heirs and assigns forever.

Item. I give and bequeath unto Allen Gray one little black mare and one little black cow and her calf

to the only proper use and behoof of him the said Allen Gray, his heirs and assigns forever.

Item. I give and bequeath the rest and residue of my estate both real and personal unto my son James Polk, whom I appoint Executor of this my last will and testament to see the same performed.

In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal the twenty third day of January Anno Dm. 1739/40.

William (his P mark) Polk

Signed, sealed, published, and declared as my last will and Testament in the presence of Abraham Heath, Matthew (his A mark) Heath, Charles King.¹¹³

Polk Great-Great-Great-Great-Great Uncles and Aunts of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers and Their Families

The great-great-great-great-great uncles and aunts of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers, the brothers and sisters of her great-great-great-great grandfather William Polk, were:

1. John Polk (?-1707). John Polk was born in Ireland. His second wife was Joanna Knox (?-?), the sister of William Polk's wife.

2. Robert Polk (?-1726??). Robert Polk was born in Ireland, and he died between February 2, 1726, when his will was dated, and May 10, 1727, when it was proved.

3. David Polk (?-?). David Polk was born in Ireland.

4. (William Polk, the subject of the previous section).

5. James Polk (?-1726). James Polk married Mary Williams (?-?) about 1671.

6. Ephriam Polk (?-?). Ephriam Polk married Elizabeth Williams (?-?).

7. Ann Polk (?-before 1699). Ann Polk first married Francis Roberts (?-?) and later married John Renshaw, Jr. (?-?).

8. Martha Polk (1679?-?). Martha Polk was born in Maryland. She first married Thomas Pollett (?-?) and later married Richard Tull (?-?).

9. Joseph Polk (1681?-1750). Joseph Polk was born in Maryland and first married a woman named Wright (?-?) and later married another woman, whose name is not known. He went to Ireland and lived on the family estate "Moneen Hall" for some years before selling it.¹¹⁴

Polk Great-Great-Great-Great-Great Grandparents of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers

The Polk great-great-great-great-great grandparents of Henrietta Alice Mellard Rogers were Robert Bruce (?-1699/1704) and Magdaline Porter Polk (1634?-1726). Both were born in Ireland.

Robert Bruce Polk was in the army and was captain in the regiment of Col. Porter in the Army of the Commonwealth. After Col. Porter's death, Captain Polk married his widow, the "charming" Magdaline Tasker Porter, daughter of Colonel Tasker of Bloomfield Castle. Bloomfield Castle afterwards descended to her sister, Barbara Tasker (?-?), who married Captain John Keyes (?-?). The castle was said to be a "Picturesque ruin" still owned by the family in 1940. Magdaline Polk inherited "Moneen Hall," a

considerable estate in the barony of Ross, County Donegal, Ireland.

About the date of the accession of James II to the throne of England, some time between the years 1680 and 1686, Robert Bruce Polk emigrated with his family to America and settled in Somerset County, Maryland, where on March 7, 1687, he made entries of land:

1. "Polk's Lot," 50 acres lying on the north side of Manokin River;
2. "Polk's Folly," 100 acres lying in the same quarter near the head of Broad Creek.

Robert Polk and his sons and grandsons received grants of land on the eastern shore of Maryland from the Lords Baltimore between 1687 and 1742. In 1689 the names of Robert Polk and of his son, John, appear on a list of loyal subjects of Somerset County, Maryland, who addressed a letter to King William and Queen Mary.

Robert Polk died between May 6, 1699 and June 5, 1704. His wife, Magdaline, lived to be nearly 92 years old. She died at White Hall, the family seat in Somerset County, Maryland in 1726. By her will she bequeathed "Moneen Hall" to her youngest son, Joseph, who went to Ireland and lived on the estate for a number of years, afterwards selling it. All the other children remained in Maryland.¹¹⁵